12-27-04

DEC 2 3 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ernest J. Hamilton

Serial No.: 10/003,500

Filed: October 23, 2001

For: DICING SAW BLADE POSITIONING

APPARATUS AND METHODS

INDEPENDENT OF BLADE THICKNESS

VIA CONSTRAINED BIASING

ELEMENTS

Confirmation No.: 7399

Examiner: M. Rachuba

Group Art Unit: 3723

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-4881US

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Person making Deposit:

Christopher Haughton

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on September 3, 2004, and, further, in response to the Advisory Action dated December 1, 2004. The three-month shortened statutory period for response to the Final Office Action expired on December 3, 2004. Accordingly, this Amendment is being submitted with a petition for a one-month extension of time and the appropriate fee.

Amendments to the claims are set forth in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper; and

Remarks start at page 9 of this paper.